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Informal Comments

International Application No. : PCT/JP2004/017604
International Filing Date : 26/11/2004
Applicant : SUMITOMO ELECTRIC HARDMETAL CORP.
Agent : TORII Kazuhisa et al.
Applicant's or Agent's File reference : PCT2004KP135

Dear Sir,

The Applicant, who received the Written opinion of the International Search Report relating to the above identified International Application transmitted on 08/03/2005, hereby files brief comment.

In the international search report, it has been pointed out that claims 1 and 4 to 12 lack both novelty and inventive step over JP 2001-328022A (Reference 1). In order to distinguish the present invention over Reference 1, claim 1 has been amended to recite the feature that the vibration damper piece is not coupled to the holder, and the feature that at least one of the surfaces of the vibration damper piece and the inner wall of the pocket that collide against each other is a flat surface so that the vibration damper piece can be brought into surface contact with the inner wall of the pocket or at a plurality of points.

The tool with reduced vibration levels disclosed in Reference 1 includes a vibration damper member received in a hollow space defined in the tool body and having its portion coupled to the inner wall of the hollow space. Thus, this tool basically differs in its vibration damping mechanism from the tool according to the present invention. The vibration damper member of the tool of Reference 1 requires a higher vibration damping capacity than the vibration damper piece of the tool according to the present invention.

If the vibration damper member of the tool of Reference 1 should collide against the inner wall of the hollow space due to its marked deflection, it will collide against the inner wall along a single line. On the other hand, the vibration damper piece of the tool according to the present invention will collide against the inner wall of the pocket along a surface or at a plurality of points. Thus, the latter can more effectively damp vibration.

Very truly yours,

Patent Attorney
Kazuhisa TORII

Kazuhisa Torii